

1900 Rev 7-8-74

Nebraska Weekly Weather & Crop Report



Statistical Reporting Service, USDA
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Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
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Release 7/8/74

Week Ending 7/8/74

WEATHER

Precipitation remained low during the week mostly over the Panhandle where traces were reported. The remainder of the State received generally less than a quarter of an inch. Broken Bow received the most with 1.05 inches from a thunder-shower.

Temperatures remained above normal by three to eight degrees. The highs were mostly above normal by as much as ten to fifteen degrees while lows were below normal Sunday and again near mid-week.

CROPS

Record-breaking high temperatures were again common. Soil moisture supplies declined during the week ending Friday as only limited amounts of rain were received. Topsoil supplies were reported as short in 96% of reporting counties and adequate in 4%. This week's shortage of topsoil moisture was exceeded only once for the comparable period since 1969 and that was 1970. Subsoil supplies were short in 61% of counties and adequate in 39%. Row crops, hay and pasture condition showed the sharpest declines. Nearly the entire week was suitable for field-work.

Wheat harvesting is progressing extremely fast and early with 65% completed compared with 15% a year earlier and 35% normal. Harvest progress to date is at about the same pace as the early 1970 crop. Southern counties are almost completely harvested while it is just beginning in counties farthest west and north. Most growers are putting the crop into storage with no storage or transportation problems reported. The crop is now 85% ripe compared with 55% a year earlier and 60% normal.

Corn condition declined and is mostly good with 6% of counties reported as excellent, 67% good, 25% fair and 2% poor.

Much of the corn was waist high or higher by the Fourth of July. Early fields are tasseling. Many irrigators are finding it difficult to supply enough water to corn during the hot, dry and windy weather. Rootworms have been reported in many areas.

Sorghum condition declined and is mostly good with 3% of counties reported as excellent, 67% good, 29% fair and 1% poor. Some late planted sorghum is very short and there are doubts whether it will make a crop. Chinch bugs and greenbugs continue to be a problem.

Soybean condition also declined and is mostly good with 5% of counties excellent, 65% good and 30% fair. The crop is showing stress in many cases from the heat and drought.

Sugar beet second hoeing is continuing. Early fields are closing over. The crop is requiring much irrigation. Most dry beans are looking good.

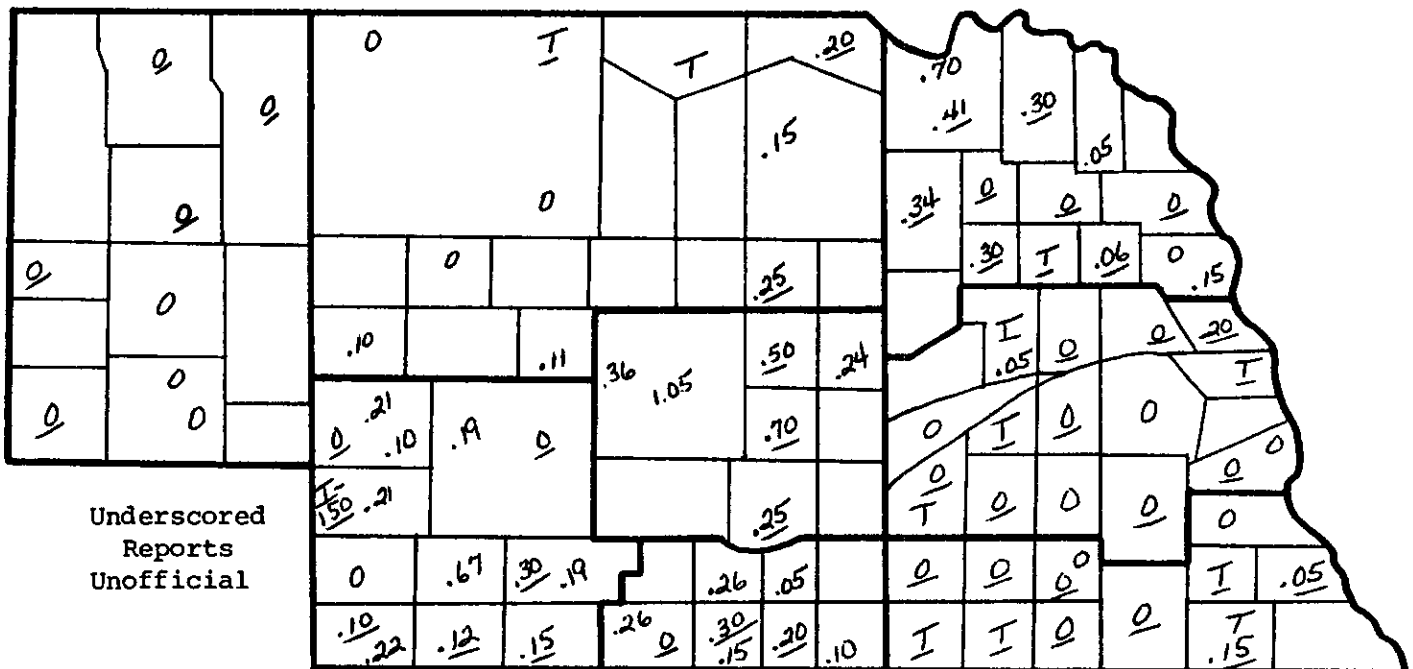
Alfalfa and wild hay condition declined during the week and is mostly in fair to good condition. About one-fourth of the second cutting of alfalfa has been completed with stands hurt from the hot, dry weather and previous weevil damage. First cutting of wild hay has started.

LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture feed supplies declined sharply and are now short in 66% of counties reporting and adequate in 34%. Cool season grasses have dried up and pastures are getting short. Unless sufficient moisture is received soon, some cattlemen will start to reduce herds. Some are feeding hay.

Livestock are in generally good condition but showing stress from heat which caused some death losses and reduced gains. Flies have been bad.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1974



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING 6:00 P.M. SUNDAY, JULY 7, 1974

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1/</u>
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	106	51	79	--	0
	Scottsbluff	102	48	76	+4	T
	Sidney	99	--	--	--	--
NC	Burwell	98	--	--	--	--
	Valentine	103	48	80	+8	.73
NE	Norfolk	101	59	80	+6	.06
	Sioux City	98	62	80	+6	.03
CEN	Grand Island	105	61	82	+7	T
EC	Lincoln	104	62	84	+8	T
	Omaha	103	59	81	+5	.23
SW	Imperial	--	--	--	--	--
	North Platte	98	45	76	+3	.22

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.

Precipitation, April 1 - July 5, 1974

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week.....	.00	.10	.20	.40	.00	.20	.20	.00
Total since April 1.....	4.40	6.70	10.70	9.10	9.30	7.60	8.20	8.60
Normal since April 1.....	8.10	9.36	10.76	10.26	11.25	8.59	10.16	12.17

U.S. Department of Agriculture
211 Federal Building, Box 81069
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501
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